

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A copied print giving the same impression as the original is generated. ID information is embedded in original picture data and stored in storage means while an original picture is printed and provided to a user. The user generates an original image by using the original picture and requests printing of the original image from a laboratory. In the laboratory, reading means reads the original image and reads the ID information from the original picture included in the original image. The original picture data corresponding to the ID information are read from the storage means to be used for generating composite image data. At this time, matching is carried out between initial image data representing the original image and the original picture data, and the original picture is positioned to be pasted on the composite image data. The composite image data are printed by a printer.

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